



**Connecticut  
Vineyard &  
Winery  
Association**

**Jamie Jones**

**Testimony before the General Law Committee  
SB 516 – An Act Concerning Farm Wineries**

Senator Colapietro, Representative Shapiro and members of the General Law Committee, my name is Jamie Jones and I am the owner of P. Jamison Jones winery in Shelton, CT. I am here today on behalf of the CT Vineyard and Winery Association, a trade association representing small wineries across the State. I would like to register my support for SB 516 and Act Concerning Farm Wineries.

We feel that SB 516 would allow us to better compete with out of state wineries and other companies that are shipping wine and gift baskets in to the state. Gift Baskets with food and other nonperishable items are very popular with consumers, especially around the holidays. We are currently not allowed to include other items in our shipments. Because we are a niche market/ type of business, this ability would fit in nicely with our business model.

The one clause we do not agree with in the bill, is the ability to send the products via regular mail. We feel that because alcohol is involved, a responsible shipper who will verify the age of the accepting consumer is essential. We would not want to alcohol getting in to the hands of children and offer the language contained in the direct shipment statutes as a model.

We hope you will favorably consider this proposal and allow CT wineries to better compete with out of state wineries who offer gift baskets with food and other nonperishable items in them. Thank you for allowing me to deliver my thoughts on this matter